

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method of operating an automated banking machine adapted to dispense cash,

and to provide receipts for transactions conducted with the machine, comprising:

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(a) determining at least two consecutive receipt jam event indications

involving at least two receipts,

(b) generating a receipt jam signal responsive to (a).

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein (a) includes determining at least two

10 consecutive receipt jam event indications associated with at least two consecutively printed receipts.

3. The method according to claim 2 wherein (a) includes a first jam event indication

involving a first receipt and a second jam event indication involving a second receipt, wherein the first jam indication involves only a single receipt.

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4. The method according to claim 1 wherein in (a) at least one jam event indication

involves at least one dummy receipt.

5. The method according to claim 1 and further comprising a controller, wherein (b)

includes generating the receipt jam signal responsive to operation of the controller.

6. The method according to claim 1 wherein (a) further includes

5 (i) printing a first receipt with a printer in the machine responsive to a first transaction conducted through operation of the machine,

(ii) moving the first receipt to adjacent a receipt outlet of the machine, wherein receipts sensed adjacent the receipt outlet generally extend through the receipt outlet and are accessible to a user,

10 (iii) sensing that the first receipt adjacent the receipt outlet is not removed within a first time period, after the first receipt is moved adjacent to the receipt outlet,

7. The method according to claim 6 wherein (a) further includes

(iv) printing a second receipt with the printer responsive to a second transaction conducted through operation of the machine,

15 (v) moving the second receipt to adjacent the receipt outlet,

(vi) sensing that at least one of the first receipt and second receipt is adjacent the receipt outlet a second time period after the second receipt is moved adjacent to the receipt outlet.

8. The method according to claim 7 and further comprising:

5 storing in a data store user identifying data associated with a user conducting the first transaction, and

storing in a data store user identifying data associated with a user conducting the second transaction.

9. The method according to claim 8 and prior to (a)

10 c) storing in a data store, user identifying data associated with a prior user conducting a prior transaction conducted with the machine prior to the first transaction.

10. The method according to claim 9 wherein (c) includes storing data corresponding to at least one input to the machine by the prior user.

11. The method according to claim 9 and prior to (c) storing in a data store data corresponding to an image of at least a portion of the prior user, and wherein (c) includes associating the image with the at least one input.

5 12. The method according to claim 9 and prior to (c) further comprising storing in a data store user identifying data associated with at least one earlier user conducting a transaction with the machine prior to the prior user.

13. The method according to claim 12 and further comprising:

10 analyzing user identifying data identifying users of the machine associated with transactions associated with receipt jam indications and transactions prior to receipt jam indications for purposes of identifying who may have tampered with the machine.

14. The method according to claim 7 and prior to (a) further comprising:

storing in a data store, data identifying an individual adjacent to the machine prior to the first transaction.

15. The method according to claim 7 wherein (a) includes prior to (iv),

attempting to retract the first receipt in the machine away from the receipt outlet with a receipt retraction device.

16. The method according to claim 15 wherein (a) includes prior to (iv),

sensing that the first receipt is not retracted away from the receipt outlet through an operation of the receipt retraction device.

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17. The method according to claim 15 wherein (a) includes prior to (iv),

sensing that the first receipt is retracted away from the receipt outlet through operation of the receipt retraction device.

18. A method of operating an automated banking machine adapted to dispense cash

10 and to provide receipts for transactions conducted with the machine, comprising:

(a) determining indication of a receipt jam event associated with a first receipt,

(b) subsequent to (a), determining indication of a receipt jam event associated with a second receipt,

(c) generating a receipt jam signal responsive to both (a) and (b).

19. The method according to claim 18 and further comprising:

(d) prior to (a), printing the first receipt, through operation of the machine,

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(e) subsequent to (a), printing the second receipt through operation of the machine.

20. The method according to claim 19 wherein (e) includes sequentially printing the second receipt after the first receipt.

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21. A method of operating an automated banking machine adapted to dispense cash and to provide receipts for transactions conducted at the machine, wherein the machine includes a receipt outlet, wherein a receipt at the outlet is accessible to a user of the machine, and wherein the machine includes a receipt retraction device in operative connection with the outlet, comprising:

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(a) printing a first receipt with a printing device in the machine,

(b) directing the first receipt along a receipt path toward the receipt outlet,

(c) determining either

- (i) the first receipt failing to reach the receipt outlet, or both
- (ii) the first receipt reaching the receipt outlet, and
- (iii) the retraction device failing to retract the first receipt,

5 (d) subsequent to (c), printing at least one second receipt through operation of the printing device, wherein the at least one second receipt sequentially follows the first receipt,

(e) directing the at least one second receipt along the receipt path toward the receipt outlet,

10 (f) determining the at least one second receipt failing to reach the outlet,

(g) generating a receipt jam signal responsive to both (c) and (f).

22. The method according to claim 21
wherein (d) includes printing a second receipt, wherein the second receipt sequentially immediately follows the first receipt,

wherein (e) includes directing the second receipt along the receipt path toward the outlet, and

wherein (f) includes determining the second receipt failing to reach the outlet.

23. The method according to claim 22 and further comprising a sensor adapted to

5 sense a receipt at the outlet, wherein (ii) includes sensing with the sensor the first receipt at the outlet.

24. The method according to claim 23 and further comprising a timer, wherein prior

to (iii), timing with a timer a time the first receipt is present at the outlet.

25. The method according to claim 24 wherein (iii) includes initiating the retraction

10 device responsive to the timer.

26. The method according to claim 22

wherein (c) determines a first receipt jam event,

wherein (f) determines a second receipt jam event.

27. The method according to claim 22 and further comprising

15 (h) directing the second receipt away from the outlet.

28. The method according to claim 22 wherein the automated banking machine comprises an ATM, and performing steps (a)-(g) with the ATM.

29. The method according to claim 28 wherein (d) includes printing indicia corresponding to a transaction carried out through operation of the ATM on the second receipt.

5 30. The method according to claim 28 wherein the ATM includes a cash dispenser, and further comprising

(h) dispensing an amount of cash.

31. The method according to claim 30 further including printing indicia associated with the amount of cash dispensed in (h) on one of the first receipt and the second receipt.

10 32. An article comprising computer readable media bearing instructions executable by at least one processor in an automated banking machine including a cash dispenser, and which is operative to cause the automated banking machine to carry out a method comprising:

a) sensing failure to deliver a first receipt from the machine that is associated with a first transaction conducted through operation of the machine,

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- b) sensing failure to deliver a second receipt from the machine that is associated with a second transaction conducted through operation of the machine sequentially immediately after the first transaction,
- c) generating at least one signal responsive to the occurrence of both (a) and (b).

33. The article according to claim 32, wherein the method further includes prior to (b)

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printing a first receipt associated with the first transaction through operation of a printer in the machine, and moving the first receipt adjacent to a receipt outlet of the machine.

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34. The article according to claim 33 wherein the method includes prior to (b) operating a retraction device to attempt to retract the first receipt into the machine away from the receipt outlet.